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There were, therefore, at 4 o'clock p. m. this day, 5 cases of smallpox in this District, all confined in the smallpox hospital.

Respectfully,

WM. C. WOODWARD, M. D.,
Health Officer.

Smallpox in Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 18, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to state that since my last letter, dated June 11, 1900, relative to the smallpox situation, 8 new cases have been reported. There are, therefore, to day in this District 13 cases of smallpox, all confined to the smallpox hospital.

Respectfully,

WM. C. WOODWARD, M. D.,
Health Officer.

FLORIDA.

Inspection of smuggling smacks off Anclote Key, Fla.

U. S. S. W. D. BRATTON,
Port Tampa, Fla., June 11, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the cruise of the Marine-Hospital Service quarantine steamer *Bratton* for the period extending from June 5 to 11, inclusive:

The *Bratton* left Port Tampa on the morning of the 5th instant and headed for Anclote, arriving there at 3.30 p. m. of the same day, and anchored in the harbor. At that time no smacks were in sight and only one or two small coasters were in the harbor.

At daybreak on the 6th a smack was sighted heading for entrance of harbor, but as soon as it became light enough for him to recognize the *Bratton* he went about and headed for sea, at the same time hoisting the United States flag.

All day of the 7th was uneventful and no smacks were seen and only 1 sponger, the *Iowa*, of Key West, came into the harbor and anchored about 1 mile northwest of the *Bratton*. Although this vessel was anchored in the roadstead, he showed no anchor lights.

On the 8th spongers were coming into the harbor all day, and by nightfall between 40 and 50 were at anchor about 1 mile inshore from the *Bratton*.

On the morning of the 9th smacks began coming in and anchored about 2½ miles offshore, and at 2 p. m. there were 8 of them anchored close together. At 2.30 p. m. a small sloop was seen communicating with smacks, but before we could get underway he escaped and was soon lost to sight in the heavy rain squalls which were occurring every few minutes. At 4 p. m. quite a heavy gale was blowing and heavy sea prevented boarding and work was abandoned for the day, the *Bratton* anchoring between the smacks and the sponge fleet.

On the morning of the 10th we got underway at 4.30 a. m. in a heavy rain storm and went out to the smacks and attempted to board and inspect. The *Regla* was boarded by myself and Inspector Browder and was found to have certificate of disinfection dated June 1, and her crew of 6 men were well. She was found with a considerable quantity of aguardiente aboard, but as they claimed stress of weather no seizure was made. We then boarded the *Antonio Barba*, and he also was found to have certificate of disinfection, dated May 28. The weather became so bad that I was compelled to discontinue my work on account of the

very frail boats with which the *Bratton* is equipped, and we anchored a short distance from the smacks in order to prevent any communication from shore. The storm continued all day and by night was a heavy gale.

On the morning of the 11th, the weather had moderated very much, and at 4.45 the work of inspecting was begun again, although quite a heavy sea was running and boarding could not be attempted from the *Bratton*, and was somewhat dangerous from our light boats. The following smacks were boarded and inspected and all were found to have certificates of disinfection from Havana, but almost all of them had either large quantities of aguardiente, or empty containers, and, in lieu of the liquor, from 1 to 4 live hogs: The *Maria*, with crew of 8 men; the *Santi aguita*, with crew of 8 men; the *Reemplago*, with crew of 6 men; the *Vergen el Carmen*, with crew of 7 men, and the *Javarina*, with crew of 7 men. The work of boarding from the small boats had to be abandoned on account of dangerous seas, and we then got as near the remaining smacks as possible and ordered them to get out of the harbor as soon as weather permitted. The following smacks were warned in this manner: The *Angelita*, 6 men; the *St. Jos*, 8 men; the *Constante Martinez*, 7 men; the *Paquet*, 6 men; the *Antonio Ypago*, 6 men; the *Francisco Condon*, 7 men; the *Pelar Antonia*, 7 men, and the *No. F 1185*, 6 men.

The *Antonio Ypago* defied us and refused to move out farther than he then was (about 3½ miles from shore), and as all these vessels are armed and we were without arms of any kind I threatened to ram him with the *Bratton* if he did not move out. He then went out about half mile farther and hove to. Coal was almost out and we were compelled to leave for Port Tampa, as none is obtainable at Anclote. At this time all smacks save the *Ypago* were from 5 to 8 miles offshore and we headed south, but when about 10 miles down the coast we saw that the smacks had gone about and were again headed for Anclote. Our coal was so low, however, that it was impossible to return, and we continued on our route to Port Tampa, arriving there at 2 p. m. Much rough weather was encountered on this trip and the *Bratton* proved herself to be a very able sea boat and behaved very well.

In conclusion. I have to respectfully inform the Bureau that it seems that these vessels are informed in Havana that when they are disinfected they will be allowed to enter the harbors on this side, and this leaves them with the impression that they may bring in all the aguardiente they wish without molestation.

I would, therefore, suggest that they be informed that they are subject to the customs inspection in addition to Marine Hospital inspection in order to avoid misunderstandings and possible trouble with them on this side, as they make no distinction between the two inspections now and think that a certificate of disinfection exempts them from all.

Respectfully,

G. M. CORPUT,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., In Command.

ILLINOIS.

Smallpox at Cairo.

CAIRO, ILL., June 9, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report for the week ended June 9, 1900, 1 new case of smallpox and no deaths, in this city. Total number cases reported to date, 108 cases and 6 deaths.

Respectfully,

JOHN MILTON HOLT,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., In Command.